The "Eliminate Your Debt" Schedule

- 1. Stop spending money you don't have! Save one credit card for emergency use, and commit to living within your means.
- 2. Decide on an "extra" amount you can commit to paying each month until you've eliminated your debt. This is ideally about 5% of monthly income. (If you earn \$15 an hour, your monthly gross income is \$2,600 and 5% of that is \$130.)
- 3. List debts in column A in the order you want to pay them off (start with the smallest payment or the highest interest rate). Put the total balance owed in column B. Write the minimum monthly payment in column C.
- 4. Beginning in column D is the actual amount you'll pay toward each debt. Your payment for the debt listed on line 1 will be its required payment (column C) *plus* the extra amount you committed to (\$130 in this example). Continue making your regular payment on each of the other debts. When line 1 is paid off, add that entire payment (\$148 in this example) to the next payment down.

Below is a sample schedule. Go to https://quicken.com/planning/debt/debt_planner/ for a free online version.

	A	В	C	D	E	F	G	H
	Name of Debt	Total	Required Monthly	February	March	April	May	June
		Balance	Payment	Payment	Payment	Payment	Payment	Payment
1	Visa Card	\$435	\$18	\$148	\$148	-	1	_
2	Furniture store	1,380	2.5	2.5	2.5	\$173	\$173	_
	card							
3	Auto loan	6,250	150	150	150	150	150	323
4	Home equity loan	13,800	185	185	185	185	185	185
5	Mortgage	68,000	680	680	680	680	680	680
6								
	Total Payments		1,188	1,188	1,188	1,188	1,188	1,188
	A	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н